

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 02833 181057Z  
ACTION NEA-10

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UNCLAS JIDDA 2833

USIAC

USIA FOR IOP/M, INA

E.O. 11652: N/A  
SUBJ: WEEKLY SAUDI EDITORIAL REVIEW

1. SUMMARY: ITEMS IN SAUDI PRESS INCLUDED FIGHTING IN  
SOUTH LEBANON POSTPONED PEACE IN M.E. TWO YEARS, ARAB  
BOYCOTT, AND U.S. AND ZAIRE. END SUMMARY.

2. FIGHTING POSTPONED.  
THE BATTLE FOR SOUTH LEBANON IS THE LATEST ACT IN THE  
OVERALL LEBANESE DRAMA. MANY OF THE CIVIL WAR'S REAL  
AIMS HAVE ALREADY BEEN ACHIEVED. A MIDDLE EAST  
SETTLEMENT HAS BEEN POSTPONED FOR TWO YEARS (ARAB NEWS,  
APRIL 11). U.S. CALLED ON SYRIA, LEBANON AND ISRAEL  
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TO SHOW RESTRAINT (OKAZ, APRIL 15).

CARTER'S PERSONAL INTEREST IN PREPARATIONS FOR  
GENEVE CONFERENCE WAS GIVEN PROMINENCE BY DAILIES  
WHICH REPORTED U.S. PRESIDENT WILL CONTINUE CONSULTATIONS  
WITH ARAB LEADERS (DATES GIVEN).

OKAZ (APRIL 10) WROTE "SADAT PLAYED A GREAT ROLE DURING TALKS WITH CARTER WHO REFERRED TO THIS IN HIS STATEMENTS IN WHICH HE AGREED TO THE START OF GENEVA TALKS. PALESTINIANS PARTICIPATION IN GENEVA...A MUST." "CERTAIN POSITIVE SIGNS CAN BE SEEN IN U.S. STAND IN SPITE OF ITS VAGUENESS. CARTER DID NOT SAY WHERE THE HOMELAND WILL BE AND WHO WILL REPRESENT THE PALESTINIANS (APRIL 10) MOHAMMED HUSSEIN ZEIDAN WROTE NEGOTIATIONS WITH U.S. MEAN" PUTTING THINGS ARIGHT. NO PEACE...NO WAR PAVES THE GROUND FOR RUSSIAN INFLUENCE IN ARAB AND AFRICAN COUNTRIES. U.S. QIS ANXIOUS NOT TO LET AFRICA FALL TO RUSSIA." IBRAHIM JIZEINI (RIYADH, APRIL 14) SAID SADAT REGARDED CARTER "RESPONSIBLE" FOR SOLVING THE CRISIS BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE. SADAT'S TRIP TO U.S. WAS LAST-CHANCE VISIT AND CARTER'S STATEMENTS ON ISRAEL'S SECURITY DO NOT FRIGHTEN ARABS AS WHITE HOUSE GAVE THEM "ASSURANCES." ON COMING VISIT TO WASHINGTON CROWN PRINCE FAHD SAID POSTPONING THE VISIT HAS BEEN DUE TO HIS MAJESTY'S ABSENCE, BUT ITS DATE WILL BE FIXED FOLLOWING KING'S RETURN. HE WILL DISCUSS WITH CARTER" BILATERAL INTERESTS AND THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION." AS FOR THE U.S. PLAN ANNOUNCED BY CARTER, HRH SAID WHAT COUNTS IS THE REACTION OF THE PARTIES CONCERNED. (ALL PAPERS, APRIL 10). HE ANSWERED A QUESTION ABOUT U.S. DESIRE TO END HUSSEIN'S REGIME THAT SUCH STATEMENTS ARE BASELESS.

### 3. ARAB BOYCOTT.

CROWN PRINCE FAHD: "BOYCOTT ISA LEGITIMATE PROCEDURE TO CONFOR ZIONIST OCCUPATION OF PALESTINE" (OKAZ, APRIL 15).  
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"BOYCOTT IS AN INTERNATIONAL PRINCIPLE AND MANY OF COUNTRY SUPPORTS ARAB BOYCOTT AGAINST ISRAEL. ZIONIST ELEMENTS TRY TO DAMAGE RELATIONS BETWEEN ARABS AND U.S. AND THE LATTER REALISES THE GREAT DAMAGE TO HER INTERESTS IN THE ARAB WORLD IF SHE ADOPTS SEVERE ANTI-BOYCOTT LEGISLATIONS." ARABS CAN IMPORT LARGE PART OF AMERICAN GOODS FROM "OTHER SOURCES." SAID MOHAMMED ABA AL-KHAIL, MINISTER OF FINANCE, IN AN INTERVIEW WITH WEEKLY YAMAMAH, APRIL 8.

### 4. U.S. AND SITUATION IN ZAIRE.

SITUATION IN ZAIRE WAS WIDELY COVERED BY SAUDI DAILIES. JAZEERAH, APRIL 14. "AFRICA IS A SCENCE FOR SERIOUS AND CRITICAL DEVELOPMENTS. WHAT TOOK PLACE IN ANGOLA IS NOW REPEATED IN ZAIRE. THIS TAKES PLACE DURING CARTER'S RULE, WHO CONDEMNED HIS PREDECESSOR'S LENIENCY IN CONFRONTING SOVIET MENACE. DETENTE IS STILL THERE WHILE SUCH HAPPENINGS OCCUR. WILL CARTER SACRIFICE DETENTE AND LOSE THE ROUND IN AFRICA?"

"AMERICA HAS NO PLAN TO FACE THE SITUATION. VIETNAM'S COMPLEX GOVERNS WASHINGTON'S MOVES. IF MOSCOW WINS A FOOT HOLD IN ETHIOPIA AND LIBYA, SHE WILL BE AT THE DOOR OF SUDAN AND EGYPT AND WILL CREATE SIMILAR CONDITIONS IN BOTH COUNTRIES LIKE THOSE IN ANGOLA AND NOW ZAIRE."  
U.S. ASKED TO REMOVE RECIST REGIMES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, AND TO "CONTRIBUTE MORE THAN WORDS" TO DETER SOVIETS. OKAZ, (APRIL 15) REACHED SAME CONCLUSION AND SAID U.S. WOULD NOT SEND VOLUNTEERS TO ZAIRE. SHE WOULD SUPPORT ZAIRE IN A VERY LIMITED WAY." RIYADH (APRIL 14) REPEATED SAME TONE...U.S. ASKED HER EUROPEAN ALLIES TO PLAY A ROLE THERE.  
SABBAGH

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